



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
October 26, 2017

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Governor Baker Nominates Janine D. Rivers to Associate Justice of the Suffolk County Probate and Family Court

BOSTON— Today, Governor Charlie Baker nominated Janine D. Rivers to serve as Associate Justice of the Suffolk County Probate and Family Court. Rivers has over 20 years of legal experience, concentrating in Probate, Family and Juvenile law and four years of social work experience with the Department of Children and Families in Dorchester.

“Janine Rivers’ legal and social work experience make her well suited for the Suffolk Probate and Family Court,” **said Governor Baker**. “If confirmed, I am confident her demeanor and commitment to the families of the Commonwealth will serve the court well.”

“As a skilled and dedicated attorney, Janine Rivers has devoted her career to helping families and children here in the Commonwealth,” **said Lt. Governor Karyn Polito**. “If confirmed by the Governor’s Council, the Probate and Family Court will benefit greatly from Attorney Rivers’ depth of understanding and experience.”

The Probate and Family Court Department has jurisdiction over family-related and probate matters such as divorce, paternity, child support, custody, parenting time, adoption, termination of parental rights, abuse prevention and wills, estates, trusts, guardianships, conservatorships, and changes of name.

For more information on the Probate & Family Court,
visit: <http://www.mass.gov/courts/court-info/trial-court/pfc/>

Judicial nominations are subject to the advice and consent of the Governor's Council. Applicants for judicial openings are reviewed by the Judicial Nominating Commission (JNC) and recommended to the governor. Governor Baker established the JNC in February, 2015 pursuant to Executive Order 558, a non-partisan, non-political Commission composed of volunteers from a cross-section of the Commonwealth's diverse population to screen judicial applications. Twenty-one members were later appointed to the JNC in April, 2015.

About Janine D. Rivers

Janine D. Rivers has been a sole practitioner since 1997 where she manages, prepares and represents clients in Juvenile and Child Welfare, Family Law, Divorce, Child Support and Custody, Guardianship and Contempt matters, and Debt Collection. Rivers is also a mentor for newly certified attorneys within the Juvenile Courts for the Committee For Public Counsel Services. She is a Final Agency Writer for DSZ & Associates where she produces well-written, thorough and legally defensible final agency decisions in response to federal sector EEO complaints. Attorney Rivers is an adjunct faculty member at Newbury College and Anna Marie College and mentors with the Youth and Police Partnership Program at Children's Services of Roxbury. She has previously served as Vice President for the Board of Directors of the Juvenile Bar Association. Rivers attended UMass Boston and received her law degree at New England School of Law. She resides in Randolph.

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